

CHILDREN EMPLOYED IN NORTH CAROLINA

Since public attention is focused on the problems of child employment at the present time, the following study of employment certificates issued to children during the biennial period from July 1, 1932 to June 30, 1934 has been prepared. This study attempts to show important factors concerning the employment of minors in North Carolina.

During the biennial period the codes, set up under the National Recovery Act, made many changes in industrial regulations. One of the most important of these changes was the code provision which raised the child labor standards. This provision had a most pronounced effect upon the very occupations in which employment certificates are generally issued, therefore, the figures for this period present varying conditions. For this reason we have gone back over a twelve year period and have made studies of certificate records which reflects the actual trend of child employment in our State.

Number of Certificates Issued

July 1, 1932 - June 30, 1933

During the first year of the biennial period, 1932-33 there were 2547 certificates issued to children under 16 years of age throughout the entire State. This number is an increase of 122% over the number issued the preceding year 1931-32. This increase of child workers is attributed to the general improvement in industry that year. The codes were not in effect, therefore the minimum age for child employment was 16 years.

Table 1, page 3, presents the number of certificates issued during this year for the different industries. Tabulations are made by industry, according to color, sexes and ages.

Number of Certificates Issued

July 1, 1933 - June 30, 1934

The number of certificates issued in the second year of the biennial period, reveals the effects of the code provision on child employment. During this year only 505 certificates were issued, and of this number 107 were for